

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 HA-05 IO-13

/096 W

-----013983 100613Z /17

R 090730Z AUG 78

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7563

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 1375

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, ELAB, SF

SUBJECT: CABINET MINISTERS VIRTUALLY IGNORED BY CAPE COLORED  
COMMUNITY

1. MINISTER OF LABOR S.P. BOTHA AND COLOURED AFFAIRS  
MINISTER HENNIE SMIT WERE THE MAIN SPEAKERS AT A SYMPOSIUM  
IN CAPE TOWN SATURDAY, AUGUST 5 ON THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSTITU-  
TIONAL PROPOSALS. THE EVENT WAS THE BIGGEST SAG EFFORT TO  
DATE TO PROMOTE ITS CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS AMONG CAPE  
COLORED COMMUNITY.

2. SYMPOSIUM WAS SPONSORED BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACTION  
COMMITTEE (CAC), A SUPPOSEDLY PRIVATE GROUP OF CONCERNED  
COLOREDS WHO SUPPORT SAG'S CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS. THE  
ORGANIZING SECRETARY OF CAC, ARTHUR DAVIDS, IS RELATIVELY  
UNKNOWN FORMER TEACHER AND LABOR ORGANIZER WHO, ALTHOUGH  
APPARENTLY UNEMPLOYED, DRIVES ABOUT TOWN IN WHITE JAGUAR.  
CAC IS BELIEVED TO BE CLOSELY LINKED WITH DR. BERGINS SOUTH  
AFRICAN FREEDOM PARTY.

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3. VENUE FOR SYMPOSIUM WAS BILLED AS 8,000 SEAT GOOD HOPE  
CENTRE. IN FACT, MEETING TOOK PLACE IN OBSCURE MINOR SIDE  
HALL OF THE CENTRE. AT MOST, 120 PEOPLE WERE IN ATTENDANCE,  
INCLUDING APPROXIMATELY 50 PENSIONERS BUSED IN FOR OCCASION,  
AND SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHOIR. NEVERTHELESS, CAC 'DRAW'  
FOR THIS EVENT WAS BETTER THAN AT TWO OF ITS OTHER

RECENT MEETINGS, IN SALT RIVER AND MALMESBURY, WHICH  
GARNERED ABSOLUTE ZERO ATTENDANCE DESPITE ADVERTISING  
IN PAPERS AND ON RADIO, AND DISTRIBUTION OF HANDBILLS.

4. SYMPOSIUM MADE NO ATTEMPT TO OPEN DIALOGUE, BUT  
SIMPLY PARADED SPEAKERS. IN ADDITION TO "FANIE" AND  
"HENNIE", SPEAKERS INCLUDED PROFESSORS BREYTENBACH OF  
PRETORIA, JEPPE OF STELLENBOSCH, AND LABUSCH OF UNISA,  
SPEAKING ON SUCH TOPICS AS "A SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF THE  
CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS", AND "ADAPTATION AND REORIENTATION  
AS A NECESSITY FOR A PEACEFUL MULTIRACIAL FUTURE".

5. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS  
CLEARLY CONTINUE TO BE ANATHEMA TO THE LABOUR PARTY,  
AND TO OTHERS WITH SOME LEGITIMATE CLAIM TO LEADERSHIP  
OF ANY SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF CAPE COLORED COMMUNITY.  
OVERALL APATHY OF COLORED POPULATION TO CONSTITUTIONAL  
REFORM PROPOSALS CANNOT HELP BUT BE APPARENT TO SAG LEADERS,  
AND ONE WONDERS WHAT THEY HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH THROUGH  
PARTICIPATION IN MEANINGLESS EXERCISES LIKE LAST SATURDAY'S  
CAC SYMPOSIUM.

AHLGREN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, SPEECHES, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CAPET01375  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CABINET MINISTERS VIRTUALLY IGNORED BY CAPE COLORED COMMUNITY  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, ELAB, SF, (BOTH, SP), (SMIT, HENNIE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014